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TOP STORY

New Coos County Fairgrounds structure to be completed this summer

AMANDA LINARES The World Jan 29, 2019 Updated 2 hrs ago



Contractors with Morrison Gederos Construction work Tuesday building a new 33,000-square-foot barn at the Coos County Fairgrounds in Myrtle Point.

Ed Glazar, The World

MYRTLE POINT — Construction kicked off last week to assemble a new livestock barn at

the Coos County Fairgrounds in Myrtle Point.

The new barn is estimated to be completed by June 30, a few weeks prior to the 2019 Coos County Fair & Rodeo season.

According to Coos County Fair board member Daris Bouthillier, the barn, which began as a multi-purpose indoor arena, was scaled back from its original concept last fall due to unforeseen costs and time restrictions.



Coos County Fairgrounds

“Part of the fairgrounds is on a floodplain and in order to build a big multi-use building we discovered that we would have to raise the building up over the floodplain level,” said Bouthillier. “We would have to put in ADA accessible bathrooms and other building requirements which raised costs immensely.”

Last spring, the board discussed constructing a permanent building that would replace costly animal tents and feature its own offices, meeting rooms, restrooms and kitchen area. The temporary tents cost nearly \$30,000 a year to rent, set up and tear down, according to Bouthillier.

“The core need is really for a shelter for the animals and the kids that handle them,” said

Bouthillier. “We scaled it back to do something that we thought was a lot more realistic and achievable.”

The Coos County Fair Alliance, a nonprofit organization aimed at supporting Coos County Fair projects and programs, has raised over \$200,000 for the barn, which is estimated to cost up to \$450,000 to complete.

It is expected to house 300 to 400 livestock animals and will feature adjustable pens that can be changed from year to year to meet its housing needs. The proposed 33,000 square foot barn will be located where the tents have been set up in seasons past adjacent to the auction area.

“We do have some room in the design to expand in the future if we need to,” said Bouthillier.

“The barn will be used almost exclusively for housing animals for the fair and for local 4-H and FFA programs throughout the year.”



Coos County
Fairgrounds

The new barn will also include a metal roof and utilities such as electricity and water. This year’s fair season is scheduled to be from July 23-27.